

# THE MINT MASTER

Volume 60, Issue10

October 2013

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

### Hello all!

This past month has gone by fast! I hope everyone is doing well and continuing to collect and learn more concerning your specific area of interest in the world of coins and bills.

On the home front, after 17 months without a job, I finally received an off from General Dynamics and will begin with them on Oct. 14th. This makes my wife and I very happy. My wife is happy because she will no longer be the sole support in our household and we can catch up on things, and me for most of the same reasons, plus it makes it so I can begin collecting again rather than selling..

This month we are sched-

uled to have a discussion on Cherry Picking by Doug Nyholm which should be very interesting. We have had discussions on this topic in the past and it is always interesting to learn of different items, or things to look for which can be used to get the best bang for your buck, as well as a choice selection at under the normal price which is always good.

Last month we held our semi annual auction and it was a great success. Thank you to all who participated. It is great to have so many great members who continue to participate and make our club the great success it is!

At last months meeting I brought in a display of circulated Kennedy's as a representation of what one may



still find in circulation. A great many of those I displayed were at least in BU condition. I hope you had a chance to see them and that it may also inspire in others the desire to keep looking through their change - you never know what you may find.

See you all on the Eighth!

**Robie Cagle**  
**President**

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### October 8th

- Greetings -  
Robie Cagle
- Mini Exhibit  
TBA
- News & Views  
TBA
- Spotlight  
TBA
- Refreshments  
TBA
- Coin Quiz—  
TBA

## PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER—CHERRY PICKING

Doug Nyholm will give a presentation on "Cherry-Picking" which is the ability to find rare varieties which can go unattributed in dealer

stock. It is possible to find that \$1000 coin for just a fraction of the value. You just have to be aware of the diagnostics and know what to look for.



## FANCY SERIAL NUMBERS

A lot of us collectors have at least heard of the segment of the hobby of collecting ‘Fancy’ serial numbers on U.S. currency. A few of us have probably driven our spouses crazy asking to look at all the currency they receive in



change in the hopes that we will spot that elusive radar or even possibly a low serial number or other special number. When I have discussed this with non-collectors they are absolutely



amazed that any piece of currency could possibly be worth more than face value just because of the serial number. Then when I inform them that certain very special serial numbers can exceed \$5000.00 they comment that they may start to be more observant of their currency.

Probably the most valuable “Fancy” number is the serial number “1.” I have seen these top the \$5000 mark but when the serial number advances from 2, then 3 and so on the value actu-



ally plummet. Higher double digit and triple digit numbers can many times be had for under

\$100. Condition is always important as with any collectable and for these special number bills the demand is for crisp uncirculated examples. In second place for value are the solid serial number notes such as 33333333 and of all solids the two best solids are 88888888 and 99999999. Eights are con-



sidered very lucky by Asians and all 9’s is neat as it is kind of the inverse of s/n 1. The third most collectable is a full ‘Ladder’ especially the 12345678 number. 23456789 is slightly less in demand but still a very good note. Finally ‘Radars’ and ‘Repeaters’ are notes that you are much more apt to actually find in circulation. Radars are read the same from front to back and back to front such as 12344321 or 10011001 etc. There are many different possibilities. Repeaters can also be radars as the 10011001 or may be 12121212, 12341234 and a number of other possibilities. So how are most of



these notes found? Large dealers contact vault tellers at major banks and ask them to pull special notes. This is frowned on by the banks and is usually done secretly by the tellers substituting normal notes from their wallets. So don’t ignore your common currency, I have dealt with average people who really received #1’s and solids from their banks.

DOUG NYHOLM



## HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF PUTTING TOGETHER A SET OF FOREIGN COINS?

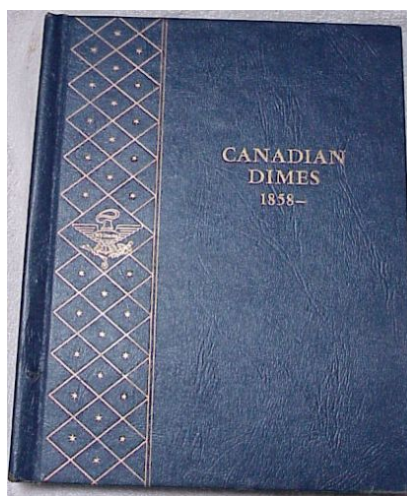
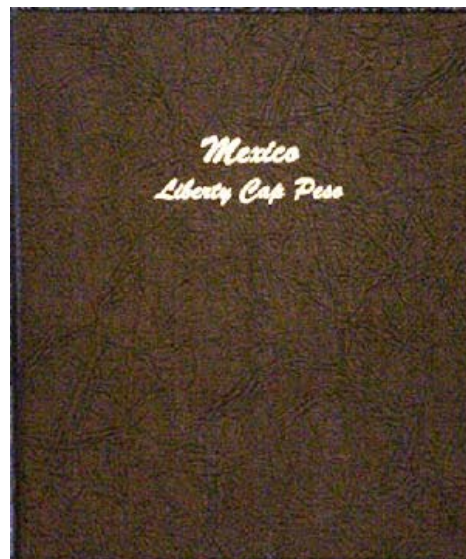
Many of us collect by filling holes in albums. The most common albums on the market are the popular Dansco and Whitman brands. Both of these distributors make albums for foreign coin sets but the variety of foreign albums seemingly has diminished with these more modern albums. The older Whitman albums came in a much wider selection such as Canadian, Mexico, and even some Asian and European sets. Also some of the out of print older albums have additional titles. Many of these can be found at coin shows, dealer stock but probably the best source is EBAY. If you cannot find the one you are looking for blank albums or blank pages can be obtained and utilized. I personally like the pre-printed obsolete albums. Over the years I have assembled sets such as Mexico Type, Philippine Type, British Large and Half Cents as well as several others.



One of the great things about assembling these foreign sets is that, one, most can be assembled on a budget as most don't have extreme rarities and foreign coins tend to be less expensive even for relatively scarce coins. Secondly, when assembling one of these sets you can learn a lot of history and information from the country you choose. In the selection of Great Britain you

will learn about the various Monarch's and leaders through the years. Type sets also are very informative in being able to glean information regarding the history of the country.

Finally, as I said, some of these sets contain relatively scarce coins that may be considered sleepers and have good potential to increase in value. Some of these may even be found in dealers foreign junk boxes which can be fun to look through. Even foreign silver coins can occasionally be purchased for near melt and even less than melt at times.



So, don't ignore these interesting sets. They are both fascinating and usually easily collectable. If a set of foreign coins contains a couple of tougher coins and you can't find them in your local dealers junk box or stock you can al-

ways utilize the worlds largest coin store, EBAY. Happy hunting and collecting.

Doug Nyholm

## COUNTERFEIT CORNER

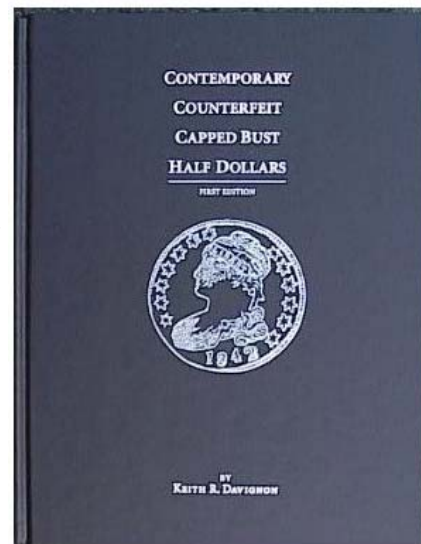
Most of the time in the Mint Master this column deals with devious coins which were created to separate you and your money. However as with anything in life, or in numismatics, there are exceptions to the rule. These are the contemporary counterfeits of the Bust Half series from 1807-1839. There have actually been several books written about



these fascinating halves and their collectability. There are multiple varieties of virtually all the halves in this series, especially after 1818. Most are dated later in the 1820's and 30's. Contemporary means that these counterfeit coins were made during the years of this series and intended to circulate in commerce. Virtually none are made of silver, and most are crudely made.

Most are made of 'German Silver' which contains no silver, while some are of base metals and have been silvered. A few are made fairly well although they would not fool any knowledgeable numismatist today. Some actually mimic known Overton varieties and were made from some type of transfer dies but most are cast. These counterfeits are highly collected and usually sell for less than \$100 each. The picture here of the 1838 is of a design discontinued in 1836. The counterfeiter didn't know that little detail as sometimes in the early 1800's news and information did not travel rapidly especially among counterfeiters. The lettered edge type which ended in 1836 was actually duplicated by the counterfeiters as late as 1842.

**Doug Nyholm**



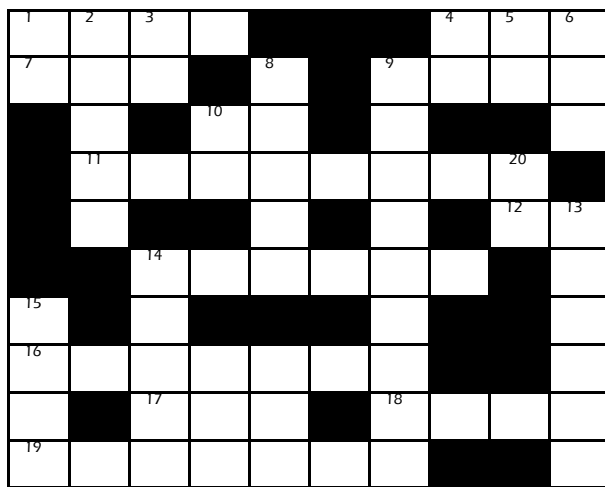
## NEW \$100 BILL RELEASE SCHEDULED FOR OCT. 8TH

Are you ready to get the new \$100 bill in change? These were on display at the Chicago ANA and are scheduled to be released October 8th. If the government keeps its word who will bring one to our meeting tonight. I'm sure all would like to see one.





## QUIZ / NUMISMATIC CROSSWORD



### Down

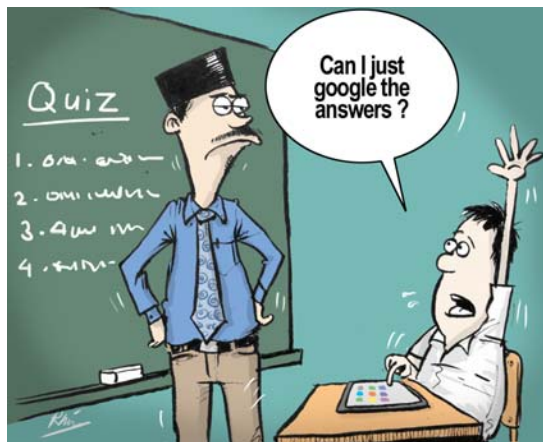
1. THE DATE \_\_\_\_ LOCATED ON THE EDGE OF THE NEW SACQUEGEWA DOLLARS
2. METAL DISCS IN YOUR POCKET
3. ABBREVIATION OF THE CANADIAN PROVINCE WHERE THE ROYAL CANADIAN MINT IS.
4. ??COM WEBSITE FOR HERITAGE GALERIES
6. MONTANA IS KNOWN FOR THIS BIG ITEM
8. 1783 WASHINGTON \_\_\_\_\_ COIN
9. ANOTHER NAME FOR CURRENCY
10. ABBREVIATION FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- 13.. THE \$ IS A \_\_\_\_\_ OF OUR U.S. CURRENCY

14. ANOTHER NAME FOR NOTES OR CURRENCY
15. WHAT YOU DO TO TEA TO MAKE IT COLD
20. CITY THE MONROE DOCTORINE COMM. DEPICTS

### Across

1. THE U.S. DOLLAR IS AN \_\_\_\_\_ OF WORLD CURRENCY
4. A TRUE BULLION \_\_\_\_\_ TO SHOW THE FINENESS AS .999
7. IF YOUR \_\_\_\_\_ IS HERE HE MAY BE CONSIDERED A YOUNG NUMISMATIST.
9. A PLACE TO PUT YOUR MONEY INTO
10. ABBREVIATION OF THE STATE WHOS QUARTER DEPICTS AN AUTO RACE
11. A TYPE OF BANKNOTE
12. SOLD "\_\_\_\_ IS"
14. ACTIVITY AT A COIN SHOW
16. SOMETHING WE ALL DO
17. SOMETHING MISSING ON A 1937 BUFFALO
18. EUROPEAN CURRENCY
19. WHAT IS DEPICTED ON A COIN

GOOD LUCK ON THIS CROSSWORD. IT TURNED OUT TO BE A MAJOR PROJECT TO PUT TOGETHER. I THINK THAT MOST CROSSWORDS TODAY ARE COMPUTER GENERATED OR PUT TOGETHER BY PEOPLE IN A PADDED ROOM.



### IDENTIFY THIS COIN

\$4 STELLA

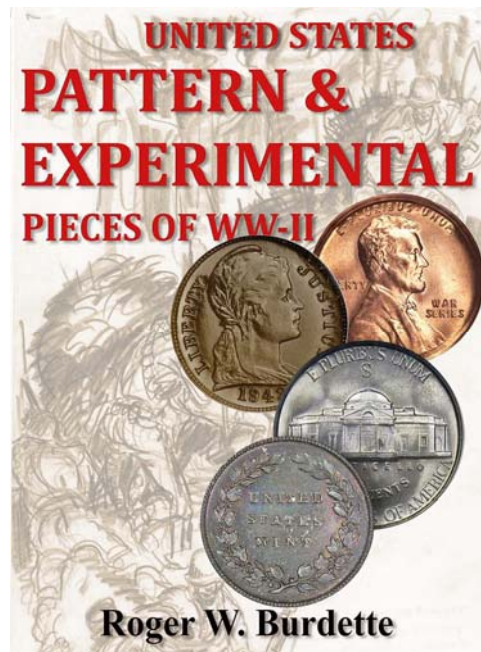


### SEPTEMBER ANSWERS

1. TWO
2. TWO
3. SOMMER ISLANDS
4. TEMPLETON REID
5. ROUND \$1

## BOOK REVIEW / WWII PATTERNS

It seems that presently there are books written on every imaginable numismatic subject. Here is a new book on a very interesting subject that very little has been written. We are all aware of the different circulating coinage during World War II, namely the silver war nickels of 1942-45, the zinc coated steel cents of 1943 and the shell case alloy used for the cents of 1944-45. How did these compositions come about? This book documents the testing and experiments which led up to our war-time coinage. These efforts generally began in 1942 and included many different compositions which not only included different metals but also included plastics, glass, laminates as well as experiments with aluminum and many others. Manufactur-



ing also was tested by private companies as well as the U.S. mint. As far as designs, there were several non-Lincoln patterns tested which some have survived and been sold at auction. If any of the above is of interest to you or you wish to learn more about the coinage experiments from WWII this is the book for

you.

The book is softcover and has 188 pages. The format is 8.5x11 and is printed on high quality gloss paper in full color. All the patterns are illustrated in color most at least 2x actual size so one can observe details of these interesting pieces of our coinage history.

List price is \$29.95 and the book can be found on the internet. The author, Roger Burdette has done a fine job of documenting this subject and is well known for other books he has written.

This book may not be for everyone but if you have ever wondered what was going on at the U.S. Mint during World War II this is the book for you.

**Doug Nyholm**

## ANOTHER MILLION DOLLAR COIN / \$2,754,000

Bonham's auction company has joined the club of auction houses that have sold a million dollar coin. The very rare 1880 Coiled Hair \$4 Stella sold in September for over \$2.7 million putting it in the top 10 most valuable coins. It was graded Proof-67 and is the finest known of this type.

A significant number of the pattern \$4 coins were distributed to congressmen and many were later found in holdings of the Madams who ran brothels in Washington D.C. Sometimes nothing ever changes.

**Doug Nyholm**



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## PRIZES & BOTM / UTAH TOKEN BOOK



### PROMPTNESS—

1972 Proof Eisenhower

### MEMBERSHIP -

1954-D Franklin Half

### JUNIOR -

1973 USPS Souvenir Mint Set

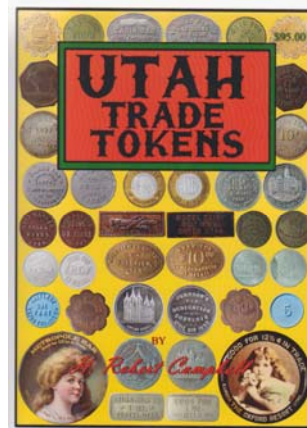
### Buy Of The Month

1966 Ireland Ten Schilling "Irish Independence" commemorative coin remembering the 50th Anniversary of the

1916 Easter Rising. This half ounce silver coin has the image of Patrick Pearse on the obverse and the reverse is an image of the statue "The Dying of Chuculainn". Inscribed on the edge is "The Easter Rising 1916" in Gaelic. These coins book for \$30-\$45 dollars in XF to AU condition. I have several of these coins for \$20 each, first come first serve.

### Prizes

2013 American Silver Eagle  
2013 5 Star Gen Silver Comm Dollar  
1897 Morgan Dollar  
1853 Large Cent  
2013 Silver Somoli Elephant  
1869 Three Cent Nickel  
1946 Booker T. Washington Half  
1942-S Walking Liberty Half  
1908-D Barber Dime  
1989-S PCGS PR69DCAM Jeff Nickel  
1989 Bic of Congress Comm Half  
2 Krooni Estonian Foreign Note



**The long awaited book on Utah Trade Tokens by H. Robert Campbell is now available. List price is \$95 and it is available at 'All About Coins' in SLC.**

## CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2013

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## YOUNG NUMISMATICS

### 50TH ANNUAL UNS COIN SHOW

### A MAGNET FOR YOUR COIN EVALUATION TOOLKIT AND A TIDBIT

**UNS COIN SHOW** I hope your calendar is marked for the 50th annual UNS coin show which is scheduled for the first weekend of November on the 1st and 2nd. The show will be open from 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. each day and will be held at the Miller complex on the Salt Lake Community College Sandy campus. With some 50 local and intermountain west dealers filling approximately 70 tables, both collectors and numismatists have an opportunity to view and purchase material not available on a routine basis. Since this show is our show, it also offers the membership many unique opportunities for service, participation, education, sharing and exhibition. This show is also our principal source of funding for various UNS activities throughout the year. Service and participation, which is rewarded, includes the set-up and/or tear-down activities and work at the UNS Hospitality tables during the show. Members are also able to participate, for free, in competitive and educational (non-competitive) exhibition categories for which prizes are given in both adult and youth categories. Every UNS show I have ever attended, the first was in 1975 has been both enjoyable and rewarding; and I know that this one will not disappoint ei-

ther. I look forward to seeing you there.



**A MAGNET FOR COIN EVALUATION** When I returned from a tour of duty in Vietnam in 1972, I was able to renew my interest in coin collecting which had been somewhat dormant except for yearly purchases of annual U.S. mint and proof sets. Like Salt Lake City, Oklahoma City had a reasonable number of coin shops and one even had a very nice bid board. I watched the bid board for about a month and then decided to participate since I frequently saw coins suitable for the sets I was assem-

bling. In bidding for and winning well over 100 coins, I did get stung twice with nice looking counterfeits made of steel that I could have identified with the use of a magnet. These coins remained undetected as counterfeit for several years until I decided to do a careful examination of all of my type coins and Morgan dollars in preparation for final set encapsulation. The first test I performed was to pass a good small round button magnet in close proximity to each coin in its 2x2 or slab. As luck would have it, 3 coins were attracted to the magnet that should not have been. 3 out of almost 600 coins wasn't too bad, but it wasn't good either. I now carry that little magnet and my magnifier with me all the time and use it on every coin purchase. It is a great help in identifying older steel based counterfeits.

**TIDBIT** The only coin produced by the U.S. Mint for circulation that should have strong magnetic attraction is the 1943 zinc plated steel cent. It is possible that a few zinc plated steel planchets were used in error for 1944 cents. Steel cents weigh 2.70 grams.

**PHIL CLARK**

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

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**PO BOX 65054  
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#### ANNUAL DUES:

☐ FAMILY \$30

☐ ADULT (18 AND OLDER) \$20

☐ JUNIOR \$5

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Please see their ad's on Page 7

